

THE BANDWAGON

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CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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February 15th 1944.

THE KIT CARSON BUFFALO RANCH WILD WEST SHOW - SEASON 1912
from notes supplied by KIT CARSON, to Ernest Jensen, CHS.

There has never been much written up about the Kit Carson Buffalo Ranch Wild West Show, and at this time I will try and give a brief description of this wonderful rambling show. It was known as Weideman Bros. Kit Carson Buffalo Ranch Wild West.

Winter quarters were in Harrisburg, Illinois, and for season of 1912, the show train consisted of 17 cars, 5 stock, 5 coaches, 1 elephant, and 6 flat cars. Length of the whole train, if I remember rightly, was 1450 ft. including wake car and engine.

Show had a nice parade, with plenty of flash for a show of this kind-circus and wild west - mostly wild west. The show went to the west coast during the 1912 tour for 26 days. The show consisted of a fine side show where everything went on and the sky was the limit. The big show had a menagerie which consisted of 3 elephants, Old Lou, Rubber and Lena - (this Lena was the one that led the Ringling Bros. herd on the big stampede in Santa Barbara, Calif.) - 2 camels, 56 head of baggage stock, and 60 head of ring stock. Tent was a 70 with 3 30 ft. middles. Big top was a 120 with 3 30-ft. and 1 40-ft. middle pieces, and had a generous connection with Chester Monahan and Kid Bartlett, managers of the concession dept. that caused plenty of squawks.

The side show had such artists as Col. Weaver, Kid Hunt, Jerry Mugivan, Boston, Honest John Brown, but Col. Hoke was the king bee of this bunch. (The Jerry Mugivan was the same one of the Mugivan, Bowers and Ballard combination, and owned the Howes Great London shows, which also toured in 1912. He was with the Kit Carson show in 1911, and part of 1912, then with his own show).

The big show performers consisted of cowboys and cowgirls, Indians, Cossacks, and such performers in circus acts as the following; The old original Miller family out of St. Louis in tight wire, and flyers Albert Powell, Sr. and family wire acts, Johnnie Manilla, Art Le Fleur the Demar troupe and the Andersons. Clowns were Steamboat Bill, Rube Harry Miller, who left the show in Arizona and went into pictures.

The Kit Carson Buffalo Ranch Wild West Show was on the road for 4 years, from 1911 to 1914, under the Kit Carson title, then it went out in 1915 under the title of Barton and Bailey Shows. Mr. Hall of Lancaster, Mo., took the show over and had it shipped to his farm, and that was the last of this organization, which went into history.

Will say that the old Kit Show was a real fast mover, and if you never trouped with it, you missed the show of your life, for it made a real trouper or a prize fighter out of you. But those days are gone beyond recall, and the circuses of to-day and the future are greatly changed, but will, nevertheless, continue to be the best entertainment of all.

Members of the CHS are indeed indebted to Kit Carson for this splendid article, and also to CHS Ernest Jensen, who was instrumental in getting Mr. Carson to write this for us. We wish also to thank Kit Carson for loaning us the negative for the photo enclosed with this issue, which is a picture of himself taken in 1912, on the Kit Carson Buffalo Ranch Wild West. Mr. Carson now lives in Champion, Nebraska. Members will be pleased to know that Mr. Carson has made another contribution to the Bandwagon, which will appear in an early issue.

L I T H O G R A P H S

(The following article by OHS Frank A Norton is written with the idea it may be a help to explain the terms used in making a collection of circus lithographs. Frank has the distinction of being the first collector to photograph an entire large collection of lithographs).

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Have you ever walked down to the station to watch the evening train puff in and out again? And after it had puffed on its way, turned around and discovered it had left one of its cars behind? Sure you have, and as soon as you saw it you knew it was not just an ordinary railroad coach. No railroad ever painted its cars with its flaming colors and pictures! Then you made a rush for the car and ran along side as the switch engine shoved it onto a side track. Then you sat on a tie until long past bedtime listening to the billposters talking about one sheets and panel dates, three sheets, and sixteen's they had hung or posted that day. You heard Dusty Rhodes tell Chicago Red about how he wrapped up a barn for a 250 count or maybe it was the Philadelphia Wop telling Tommy Conners he got the coal yard done in Dinkyville for a 400 count, or maybe Weary Willie was telling about the six donoghuss he wrapped up in his country route that day.

Sheets - sticks - daubs - hods. You didn't know what they were talking about but you did know it had something to do with the circus so you were satisfied. Finally you spotted the old man coming down the track looking for you and maybe swinging his extra razor stop so you took off for home and bed. But you didn't sleep -- you were too busy thinking about all the gay posters those men were going to paste up come morning.

Well here is what those words are in ENGLISH!

A "1 sheet" is a poster or litho 28x42" in size and is the base from which all "bills" are measured. There are half sheets, one, two, three, four, six, eight, twelve, sixteen and twenty-four sheet bills.

The $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 sheet bills may be "uprights" or "flats". An "upright" is when the printing and picture cross the paper the narrow way. A "flat" has the printing running the long way of the paper.

A half sheet is half the size of a 1 sheet or 28x21". A 2 sheet is twice the size of a one sheet or 42x56". A three or four sheet is always an upright and is equal in size to three or four 1 sheets posted together on the long sides. A 6 sheet is simply a bill printed in 2-three sheet sections. A 16 sheet bill is printed on 4 four-sheet sections, and the 24 sheet is made the same way.

A panel may be a $\frac{1}{2}$ sheet or a 1 sheet, but is always an up-right. If it is a half sheet it is 14x42" - if a one sheet it is 20x52". There is also a "streamer" bill and may be from two to six or nine sheets in size - but more about that later.

Anything up to a four sheet is a "lithograph" or "sticks" paper and is put up in stores with the aid of a pair of "sticks", and strips of sticky paper. Very few if any shows now use four sheets in their lithograph "hod" as the bundle of 150 to 200 sheets of paper the "lithographer" carries is called. Anything from a four sheet on up is "posting" paper and is posted on the outside of buildings or on fences. It is posted up with a brush with ten to twelve foot handle. The small sheets are also posted along with the big bills.

The most common "type" of poster used is known as "stock" paper. The printing companies print up thousands of sheets in the different sized bills, but don't put the title on. There are clown Bills, Lady Rider - Male Rider; Monkey; Animal; Elephant; Tumbler; Aerialist Bills. A circus orders so many sheets of whatever type they want and then the printer will put the show title on the bill or "cross line" it.

Pictorial paper needs no explanation. It is a Picture bill. Date sheets simply carry the show title, town and date and may be any size or shape up to 8 sheets.

(continued next page)

Lithographs - (continued)

Special paper is paper that carries the name of a performer such as Clyde Beatty and a good picture of the performer, or the act as the case may be. Date sheets are special paper as are price bills which carry the title and admission price. They are mostly used by the small shows with a 25¢ to 50¢ admission.

A "letter" bill can be any size but seldom goes over a six-sheet. It is colored but has no picture on it, - just wording. Some bills have a small picture with the title taking up most of the bill. Many shows paste a small "date" slip across the bottom of the lithograph. The big shows use quite a lot of special paper but the small ones are usually "stock" paper with maybe a special for their feature act. Some of the big shows also have "copyrighted" paper which is used by that show alone.

In 1933 when Cole Bros., gave up the parade they had a large stock of "parade" paper on hand. They simply cut the top of the sheet off and pasted in a strip with "Robbins Bros.," title on it, and used the paper up. (Ed. Note - Robbins was their No. 2 show for that season, and gave a parade). In 1943 the Beatty-Wallace Show used some of the Cole Bros., one sheets showing Beatty in the cage and carrying his name. The Cole title was simply cut off and the paper sold to B-W who had it slipped with their title. This often happens when a show has paper on hand that they cannot use.

A "daub" may be any size, shape or on anything. It is simply a number of bills posted in one place, such as a fence or a barn. They are usually spoken of as three-high or four-high, and two to two hundred long. Maybe it is a "coalyard" fence high enough to get a three sheet on. That makes it a three-high. The biller starts at one end with a three sheet date - then maybe he will sloop up a six-sheet-picture, then a three sheet date, and a three sheet picture, then maybe a six sheet date and then three one sheet flats or a few panels, until he comes to the end of the fence. Say he gets five 3-sheets, two 6-sheets, and three 1-sheets on the fence -- the "daub" is then a three high-ten long.

If the fence were high enough to get a three sheet with a 1-sheet flat above it, it would be four high -- ten long. Sometimes he can go five or six high on a barn or building. That is when he uses a "Streamer" which is nothing but a long "flat" bill with the title on it, and maybe made in from 2 sheets on up to 8 or 9 sheets in length. He slaps up his big bills and if there is room he will slap a row of one sheet flats above or below them, and then put the streamer across the top. Sometimes he will put up several three and six sheets and then put up a sixteen which is four-high. He will use the streamer to bring the three's and six's up even with the sixteen, or he has no streamer, he will use one sheet flats. A biller with an artistic mind, a big barn, and a good variety of paper can really produce a work of art that any farmer should be proud to have on his farm.

There have been cases though where the biller found no one at home so went to work anyway with the hopes of getting finished before the farmer arrived, only to have Mr. Farmer arrive too soon and hopping mad. It is a sad sight to see a biller pulling down his own paper before it is even dry, with Mr. Farmer watching him over the sights of a 12-gauge.

Years ago all farmers had an out-house or air-conditioned bathroom. As a rule a six-sheet would just about go completely around one. "Donogh" is show world name for the bathroom, hence the term "Wrapping up a Donogh". And the farmers like to have you do it because the paper kept the cold winds from blowing through the cracks and giving him a chill as he imitated that famous statue, "The Thinker".

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Mark Anthony CHS member would like to know if any member or collector can tell him if it is true that Wallace Beery, Movie Star, was with the Ringling Bros., as elephant man? If so, what year or years?

Please communicate with the Secretary regarding this, and we will be pleased to answer this query in a future issue of the BW for the information of all historians.

WAGON LIST ----- 1937
of the
COLE BROS. - CLYDE BEATTY CIRCUS.

From the Don Smith Collection -- Personally checked by the Late
Jess Adkins

<u>CAGES</u>		<u>Length</u>	<u>New No.</u>	<u>Old No.</u>	
<u>New</u>	<u>Old</u>				
-	17	Cross Cage....	10'	70	70 Wardrobe.....16'
-	8	"	10'	71	71 "America".....19'
-	9	"	10'	72	72 "Asia".....19'
10	-	Den.....	17'	73	73 Clown Drops.....15'
11	-	Den.....	12'	74	74 Dogs-trappings....20'
12	-	Den.....	12'	75	75 D.R. Canvas.....16'
13	-	Den.....	12'	76	76 Props.....15'
14	-	Den.....	12'	77	77 Arena.....14'
15	-	Den.....	19'	78	78 Props.....16'
16	-	Den.....	12'	79	79 Air Calliope.....14'
17	-	Den.....	12'	80	- Tableaux.....18'
18	-	Den.....	12'	81	- Loud Speaker.....16'
19	-	Den.....	16'	82	- Unafon.....10'
20	-	Den.....	12'	83	- New Dog Wagon.....14'
21	-	Den.....	12'		
22	-	Den.....	12'	84	80 Menagerie tab.....22'
23	-	Den.....	12'	85	81 Menagerie.....19'
24	-	Den.....	12'		
25	-	Den.....	12'	91	91 Pole Wagon.....40'
26	-	Den.....	16'	92	92 Stake Driver.....13'
27	-	Den.....	12'	93	93 Jacks.....21'
28	-	Den.....	18' Hippo	94	94 Chairs.....17'
				95	95 Chairs.....18'
				96	New Big Top Canvas.....20'
				97	New " " ".....20'
				98	98 Chairs.....16'
				99	99 Ring Curb.....16'
				100	97 Rigging.....16'
				101	101 Planks.....14'
				102	102 ".....14'
				103	103 ".....14'
				104	104 ".....14'
				105	New ".....14'
				106	105 Stake & Chain.....14'
				107	106 Stringers.....35'
				108	107 Gilley.....
				109	New Stringers.....35'
				110	New Stake Driver.....13'
<u>COOK HOUSE</u>					
29	96	Commissary....	16'		
30	30	Water Wagon...	11'		
31	31	Equipment.....	19'		
32	32	Boiler.....	12'		
33	33	Candy Wagon...	19'		
40	40	Stables.....	19'		
51	51	Electric.....	16'		
52	52	Electric.....	16'		
53	53	Electric.....	17' Narrow trailer		
61	61	Side Show.....	16'		
62	62	Columbia.....	22'		
63	63	Big Show Tickets.	15'		
64	64	Custard.....	15'		
66	66	Steam Calliope	15'		
		2 Roman Chariots	6'		
				<u>Un-Numbered Equipment</u>	
				"A"	Mack Truck.....20'
				"B"	" ".....19'
				"C"	" ".....20'
				"D"	" ".....19'
					"Mother Goose".....10'
					"Cinderella".....10'
					"Old Woman in Shoe".....10'
					"Clyde Beatty Auto".....17'
					"Ken Maynard Auto".....17'
					Gilley Truck.....17'
					Train Light Plant.....10'
					Tally Ho.....10'
					Two Chariots.....10'
					Phaeton.....8'

From the BILLBOARD of April 7th 1906:-

Indian Bill Wild West and the Cole & Rogers Show combined under the
name of Jones Enormous Shows. J. A. Jones, Proprietor and Manager.

Has anyone an ad for this show? It seems to be an elusive title?

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAG

Following up the recent news letter we have received definite word from at least two CHS members who are organizing Bandwagon Divisions. Maurice Allaire who is sponsoring the formation of Division Two, has made several good suggestions. Such as calling the Chairman of each Division "The Driver of the Wagon" rather than Director or Chairman. Art Stensvad at his own expense has sent out a circular letter in an endeavor to form Division Six. Let's hear from others along this line. For the information of the newer members, we are reprinting a page from an earlier Bandwagon issue which gives the suggested Divisions.

John J. Crowley CHS wants to know if any member can put him straight on this one. He recently came into possession of a photo of the Steam Calliope used on Gentry Bros., in 1903 and is wondering if this is the same Calliope played on Cole Bros., in 1937 and on Robbins Bros., in 1938. There were slight changes for the different years, but it would appear to be the same Calliope.

D. H. Shepherd CHS writes in asking if any member can give him information regarding the Pawnee Bill Show when they advertised an airship. They showed a picture of same on the side of one of their cars. This was before the Two Bill's Show. Who can help us out?

Harry Bowman CHS visited in Flint, Mich., during the Shrine Circus, and had meetings with CHS Founder Don Smith while there. Much circus history was talked over during these meetings, and Harry had several old circus mementos on hand.

E. F. Titus CHS member in Chile - writes in about their present circus season. He states that some imported names are showing down there at this time e.g. Role-Role (that was with the Ringling-Barnum Circus) The Flying Behrs (with the Bertram Mills Olympia Circus in London) and Cairolì a French Clown who had played in Paris.

Please add the following new members to your list:-

- 112.....Mr. Ralph Hadley, Lowry City, Mo.,
Sp in material on TUSKO, Al. G. Barnes Show Bull
- 113.....Mr. James W. Kelley, 593 Third Ave., West Haven, Conn.
GC
- 114.....Mr. Arthur H. Huse, 1750 Beacon St., Brookline, Mass.
GC; Sp in lithographs.
- 115.....Miss Thalei Deschert, Box 220 Centralia, Ill.,
Ph.

W I N T H E W A R I N '44!

All Proceeds derived from this ad will be invested in War Bonds and stamps.

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- 1 - 10 x 13" Album from Kraeutler Collection - over 25 - 8 x 10 photos, also tickets, route cards, program material, etc., Bargain at \$12.00 (Photos of famous animal trainers, clowns, aerialists, Action shots, etc., etc.)

BRAND NEW COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING BOOKS - \$2.00 each.

- 6 - "FUN BY THE TON" - Stories of Circus Elephants. Should be owned by every historian. By Eddie Allen and Rev. Kelly.
- 3 - "THIS WAY TO THE BIG SHOW" - Best Edition with Red & Gold covers. Authentic History and photos of "Buffalo Bill Show" and the "Big One". By Dexter Fellows, Press Agent.

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Send your orders to:

DON. F. SMITH - Box 246 - Farmington, Mich.,

THE AUCTION BLOCK

Members are to send in your bids on the following items donated to the CHS Auction Block. Send your bids (without any cash) to the Secretary, J. B. Lyon, 22-a Charles St., Guelph, Ont., Canada. Those who are fortunate in getting any particular lot or lots will be advised how much money to remit, and where to send it to. Bids to close Saturday, March 4th 1944,.....

- Lot No. 1 - 25 photos - size 120 - Seils-Sterling Circus. Mostly fine performer photos, and nice for your collection. Donated by CHS Bette Leonard.
- Lot No. 2 - Eight photos - size approx. 5 x 8" Gilbert Bros., Circus 1943. Only out a short time. Scarce. Lot, Banner, Wagon and Trailer views. Donated by Maurice Allaire CHS.
- Lot No. 3 - Fourteen photos - Hagenbeck-Wallace season 1937 - size 116 - Fine wagon views, and lot scenes. One picture shows our Honorary Member Terrell Jacobs in front of some cages. Donated by P.R. Hemphill Jr., CHS.
- Lot No. 4 - Five one-sheet lithos. Barnett Bros. (price Bill) RBB&B - Alfred Court; King Bros. (parade title) RBB&B Tiger Head; Hamid-Morton - Indoor - Equestrian Bill. Donated by Frank A. Norton CHS.
- Lot No. 5 - eight 1/2-sheet lithos. Cole - letter bill - Australian Wallabies; Cole - Boxing horses; Mills Bros., - Ponies; Mills Bros., - panel date; Beers-Barnes - Panel date; Buffalo Rodeo - bucking rider, RBB&B Lion Head title. RBB&B Clown. Donated by Frank A. Norton CHS.
- Lot No. 6 - Seven photos - Barnet Bros., season 1939 - size 120 - Truck and lot views. Donated by P. R. Hemphill, Jr., CHS.
- Lot No. 7 - Ten photos - size 116 - Hunt Bros., Circus - season 1943. Mostly truck with some lot views. Donated by Arthur Gunther CHS.
- Lot No. 8 - Two scarce photos - size 116 - Young Buffalo Wild West parade views - season 1911. Covered wagon drawn by many ox teams and No. 1 Band wagon shell drawn by several teams of blacks. Donated by Chalmer Condon CHS.

These are fine lots and will make nice additions to any collection. Be sure and send in your bids early, and bid on more than one lot.

From the Billboard of April 15th - 1911 - we quote as follows :-

"The Pennsylvania Railroad has announced the number of card to be carried by the different circuses and Wild West Shows that will be conveyed from place to place during the coming show season as follows:-

Barnum & Bailey	84	Howard Damon	20
Ringling Bros.,	81	Yankee Robinson	16
Buffalo Bill and		Rice Bros.,	12
Pawnee Bill	48	Dode Fisk	11
Hagenbeck-Wallace	45	Gentry Bros., No.1 -	10
John Robinson	38	Sun Bros.,	10
Sells-Floto	30	Mighty Haag	10
Campbell Bros.,	28	Gentry Bros., No.2 -	9
Cole Bros.,	25	Welsh Bros.,	8
Norris & Rowe	22	M. L. Clark	7
Gollmar Bros.,	22	John H. Sparks	7
101 Ranch W. West	21		

Submitted by A. Morton Smith, CHS.

POLACK BROS. CIRCUS - CIVIC CENTER - HAMMOND, IND.
as reviewed by Burt L. Wilson CHS - Friday night, January 25th, 1944

1. National Anthem - Princess White Cloud
 2. Ring 1- Phillmore - Juggler; Ring 2 - Phil and Bonnie-Foot Balancing
 3. High School Horses - Carlos Carreon
 4. Bobo Barnett and his dogs.
 5. Aerialaetta -
 6. Clown Walk
 7. Mona and Mary Ann, Polack Elephants - worked by Gwen Carsey
 8. Levitation Number - Clowns
 9. Felix Morales - Head Slide
 10. Mel Hall - Unicycle
 11. Clown Wedding
 12. High Pole - Harry Frobich
 14. Pallenberg's Bears - worked by Emil Pallenburg Jr.
- INTERMISSION
15. Ring 1 - General Grant - High School Horse, worked by Carlos Carreon
 - " 2 - Phil and Bonnie - balancing
 - Centre Stage - Morales Family - Trampoline
 16. Clown Walk
 17. Elephant Head carry with Jess King
 18. Erlo Phillmore - Juggler
 19. Burlesque - Strong Man - Clowns
 20. The Great Gregoresko
 21. Black Horse Troupe - Carlos Carreon
 22. Walter Jennier and Buddy -- the talking Seal.
 23. Hubert Castle - King of the Wire.
 24. Clown Band - presented by Eugene Randow
 25. Flying Valentinos.
-

Performance running just under three hours under personal direction of Irving Polack. Well balanced and well received - clicking same as an outdoor circus which has run all season together. Show works in two rings and center stage.

Band under direction of Bee Carsey, one of the best in the circus business. Twelve pieces - show carrying own drummer - Rex Ronstom - the rest being local musicians.

Department Heads:

George Novokchek - Superintendent
Carlos Carreon, in charge of ring stock
Bee Carsey - Bandleader
George Davis - Concessions
Geo (Hagenbeck) Page - Assistant
Whitey Wood - Announcer
Sam Ward - Press

Clowns:

Chester (Bobo) Barnett and wife
Eugene Randow
Horace Laird
Frank Prevost
Ed. Raymond
Dennis Stevens
Jack Klippel
Albert White

The show moves on six semi-trucks and carries six property men.

Through the efforts of Leonard Quist CHS - we are pleased to enclose with this issue of the Bandwagon, as a souvenir to all members of CHS a Complimentary Ticket for the JAMES M. COLE CIRCUS for the season of 1943. Leonard is very good at tracking down such material, and is always ready and willing to co-operate in all ways with the Editors. He also sent in some other items on the Cole Show - including a nice write-up which will be used in a later issue, and also some route sheet and program folders, and other items for the Auction Block. Any member who is in a position to secure such material, please do so and let us have it so it will arrive in time to be included in the Bandwagon issue. Remember - if you secure this material to be given to members of CHS -- please see that it is sent to us promptly and in this way show the appreciation of CHS to the donors. Thanks Leonard, for your co-operation.

We have a few extras of these passes on hand, and any member can secure another copy by writing the Secretary, and sending 4¢ for postage, as long as the supply lasts. Your collector friend might like one too.

PROPOSED DIVISIONS OF C.H.S.

In response to the number of replies to the recent News Letter in which mention of the Divisions of CHS was made, and for the benefit of newer members, we are reprinting the following information, as it appeared in the Bandwagon Issue of October, 1942. Summing the matter up - let us say that each Division will be named after a prominent Circus Bandwagon and each such Division shall have a Director or Chairman (or say "Driver" as mentioned in another part of this present issue) named from that District. It is also suggested that each Division collect history of all shows in that section (and of course any other information for general use). So that members can become acquainted with the plan, the proposed divisions are listed below, and we welcome further correspondence. Let us have your ideas in this regard. There are TEN ORIGINAL CHARTER MEMBERS, and we feel that there should be Ten Divisions, in tribute to them.

Division One

Michigan
Ohio
Indiana

Division Two

Maine
Vermont
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Massachusetts
Connecticut
Delaware
Maryland

Division Three

New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
Virginia
Kentucky

Division Four

North Carolina
South Carolina
Georgia
Alabama
Florida
Mississippi
Tennessee
Arkansas
Louisiana

Division Five

Wisconsin
Illinois
Minnesota
Iowa
Missouri

Division Six

North Dakota
South Dakota
Nebraska
Kansas
Oklahoma
Texas

Division Seven

Montana
Idaho
Wyoming
Colorado
New Mexico
Nevada
Utah
Arizona

Division Eight

Washington
Oregon
California

Division Nine

Canada - all Provinces

Division Ten

South America and all
other Countries outside
the U.S.A. and Canada

The allotment of Bandwagons to all these divisions will be a matter of serious thought. However, for example, we do not think there will be any objection to the setting aside of the GREAT BRITAIN (or John Bull) wagon for CANADA.

We suggest that the manner in which to go about organizing a Division is to call together - or get in touch with all CHS members in your "Division" as per above list. Then make your choice of a famous Bandwagon - and write to the Secretary, stating which wagon you desire to have set aside for you, and in this way we hope to avoid any duplication. As mentioned in this present issue some members are already at work on the idea. Who will be next?

NOW WE HAVE GONE AND DONE IT!!!
PRESENTING AN ILLUSTRATED BIG TOP!!!!

PHOTO TO ACCOMPANY ARTICLE BY WM. KOTORD, "OLD TIME BILLING WARS": JOHN ROBINSON & SELLS-FLOTO ADVANCE CARS LURIDLY PAINTED AND SPOTTED ON SAME SIDE TRACKS IN KANSAS CITY, MO., JULY 4, 1920. READ THE STORY OF HOW THEY BATTLED IT OUT TO A FINISH!!! DON'T MISS IT!!! IT'S SENSATIONAL!!!

RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW! WHILE THE SUPPLY LASTS; 20¢ A COPY OR YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00. ROBERT SAMS, EDITOR.

BIG TOP - Robert Sams, Editor, 3009 15th St., Ensley, Birmingham 8, Ala.

300 Circus Pictures for sale -- List and sample 15 cents
8 x 10" enlargements for 50 cents.

"AS TOLD ON A SUNDAY RUN" - Guide for Collectors for \$1.00
ELEPHANT HOOK --- \$ 1.50

HARRY BOWMAN - JEANNETTE, Pa.

OUTDOOR & SPORTING BOOKS
Including CIRCUS & WILD WEST, Guns
Shooting, Hunting, Fishing, Trap-
ping, Archery, Fencing, Sailing,
Horses, Dogs, Adventure, etc.
Lists on request.

THE GUNROOM BOOKSELLERS

North Castine, - Maine.

WANTED

Old Cigarette or other advertising
cards showing Circus Performers,
Animals, Wagons, etc., etc.

WALTER W. TYSON, 27 Green St.,
Guelph, Ontario, Canada

ITS COMING!!
A Special Number of the

JOHN ROBINSON 10 BIG SHOWS, 1899
APRIL 1944

Complete History of the Show, Details of the 1899 Tour, Personnel,
Program. This edition will be illustrated and at no further cost to
regular subscribers.

RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW --- A LIMITED NUMBER WILL BE AVAILABLE
FOR THIS NUMBER ONLY 25¢

ROBERT SAMS, 3009 - 15th Street, Ensley, Birmingham 8, Ala.

B I G T O P

"A Supreme Publication of Tented Amusement"

PRESENTING A PREMIER, PARAMOUNT, PREDOMINATING, AND PRE-EMINENT CIR-
CUS PUBLICATION, the like of which has never been witnessed before
in the Circus World.... P O S I T I V E L Y presenting the Best News
Features and Circus Historical Articles ever published by any one
paper or so-called Circus paper.... We will go on to make the impor-
tant strides that have marked BIG TOP as the leader in its field....
Each issue is packed and jammed with rare information which makes
each Edition a deluxe item for every discriminating Collector of the
Art of Circusiana; giving the history of the Old Shows as well as the
latest News of the New Shows!!

SUBSCRIBE NOW SO THAT YOU WON'T MISS OUT ON ANY OF THE COPIES AS WE
HAVE VERY FEW BACK COPIES AVAILABLE AT ANY TIME!

ROBERT SAMS, 3009 - 15th Street, Ensley, Birmingham 8, Alabama.

RARE PHOTOS NOW OFFERED FOR THE FIRST TIME

1. Campbell Bros. Old Wagon Show of 1897 -- Big top, side show top and banner line, ticket wagon, large crowd waiting for doors to open, etc. Fine, clear view.
2. Campbell Bros. (About 1910) -- Close-up view of ten side show banners, several performers, Ventriloquist and dummies, a white horse, speielers and ticket sellers. Unusually good.
3. Lee Greer Wagon Show of 1906 --7 men and two women performers in tights, one clown, six men in band uniforms, three elephants and their keeper. Background is a two-pole tent. Rare photo.
4. Orrin Hollis, his wife, and "Pinkie" Hollis, standing in front of their two beautiful white horses. This famous riding act was with Campbell Bros. in 1909; with Gollmar Bros., in 1912. Very fine.

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A FEW STATEMENTS OF FACT !

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